

Catact John Nadolsk

United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING Reclamation and Enforcement **BROOKS TOWERS**

1020 15TH STREET DENVER, COLORADO 80202

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

JAN 14/19**8**0

Mr. Vernal J. Mortensen Vice President - Utah Operations Coastal States Energy Company 411 West 7200 South Midvale, Utah 84027

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DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Dear Vernal:

This letter serves to approve a request from Mr. Allen Owen, of your staff, for a sixty (60) day extension of time to respond to Special Stipulation No. 1 to the approval of the Skyline Mine Plan. This stipulation deals with the ground water monitoring requirements for the Joes Valley and Valentine Faults. The extension is necessary in order for your staff to fully incorporate the suggestion relayed to Mr. Owen and others during a December 17, 1980 meeting with Mr. John Nadolski, of my staff.

During the December 17th meeting, your staff proposed reducing the monitoring intensity of five (5) surface water monitoring stations until one year prior to mining impact. Also proposed was the elimination of nineteen (19) water quality parameters (mostly the dissolved constituents of heavy metals and radioactivity) from your existing list of fifty-six (56) parameters. Both of these proposals are conceptually acceptable; however, before a modification to the mine plan can be approved, comments and concurrence must be received from Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining, Manti LaSal National Forest and the U.S. Geological Survey.

In summary, I have extended the required response time for Special Stipulation No. 1 to March 1, 1981. If you should have any further questions regarding this action, please contact John Nadolski (303/837-3773).

Sincerely,

cc:

Christensen, USFS, Price Utah Smith, DOCH, SLC

Moffitt, WSGS, SLC